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Secretary for
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Department of Toxic Substances Control

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December 1, 2020

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Mr. Frederic Clark
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INITIAL STUDY WITH PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION,
AEMETIS BIOGAS LLC DAIRY BIOGAS CLUSTER, STANISLAUS COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA – DATED OCTOBER 2020 (STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER:
2020109027)

Mr. Clark:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received an “Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Aemetis Biogas LLC Dairy Biogas Cluster” (Initial Study) (Project). The Lead Agency is receiving this notice from DTSC because of the Project’s proximity to two former military sites.

The first site is known as Bombing Target No. 8, Crow’s Landing https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report?global_id=80001163. It is located on Linwood Avenue, west of Crows Landing Road, in Turlock. DTSC has determined that there is likely no chemical contamination at the site. However, there is a chance that there are spotting charges on the site remaining from dropped practice bombs. The area has not been investigated, so it is unknown if any of these types of items remain. DTSC recommends that contractors working on trenching activities should have a plan in place to stop the trenching if they find any fragments from the practice bombing range and call a contractor who is licensed to handle these types of materials before trenching is resumed.

The second site is known as the former Turlock Bomb Loading Plant https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report?global_id=80000773. It is located at the intersection of S Faith Home Road and W Harding Road in Turlock. The former Turlock Bomb Loading Plan was used by private contractors under contract with the Department of Defense from as early as December 1941 until 1945, as a filling, assembly, clustering, and storage plant for incendiary bombs and a variety of pyrotechnic munitions. In 2015, DTSC approved No Department of Defense Actions

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Indicated for the site. The site was closed by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) in December 2019. However, the RWQCB and Stanislaus County recorded a Land Use Covenant for a portion of the site that restricts it to industrial/commercial uses, prohibits the use of groundwater, and places requirements for soil management for any soil disturbing activities. If any pipelines will be installed in the vicinity of this site, ground disturbing activities must be coordinated with the RWQCB.

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to review the Initial Study. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 255-3710 or via email at Gavin.McCreary@dtsc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Gavin McCreary
Project Manager
Site Evaluation and Remediation Unit
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
Department of Toxic Substances Control

cc: (via email)

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